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Application Number	09/981,807
Filing Date	10/19/01
First Named Inventor	Tetsuya WATANABE
Group Art Unit	3676
Examiner Name	V. A. Patel
Attorney Docket Number	36595-176071

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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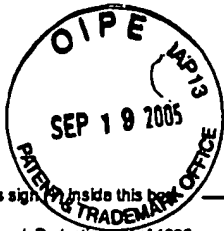
Vishal Patel

12/20/05

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	09/981,807		
		Filing Date	October 19, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Tetsuya WATANABE et al.		
		Group Art Unit	3676		
		Examiner Name	Vishal A. Patel		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	36595-176071

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
VP	A	3,383,117	A	Fagel	05-14-1968	
VP	B	4,573,690	A	Dehart et al.	03-04-1986	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ²	Number ⁴	Kind Code ³ (if known)		
VP	C		266 732	A	05-11-1988	
VP	D		879 977	A	11-25-1998	
VP	E		40 18 278	A	12-19-1991	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	<i>Vishal Patel</i>	Date Considered	12/20/05
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